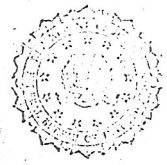
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

January 29, 1964

Honorable J. Lee Rankin
General Counsel
The President's Commission
200 Maryland Avenue, Northeast
Washington, D. C. 20002

Dear Mr. Rankin:

Reference is made to my memorandum of January 23, 1964, which advised that in accordance with a request of the Department of Justice copies of investigative reports were being made available to the United States Attorney at Dallas in order that they could be shown to the Dallas County District Attorney.

"The Dallas Times Herald" on January 28, 1964, reported, "Two Assistant State District Attorneys are today examining behind closed doors FBI reports on the slaying of Oswald by Ruby." The article identified the Assistant District Attorneys as A. D. Jim Bowie and Frank Watts. It was stated that Dallas County District Attorney Henry Wade was expected to join his assistants later in the day and that a stenographer had accompanied the assistants when they entered the United States Attorney's office at 10:00 a.m. January 28, 1964.

Mr. Wade was quoted in the article as having announced on January 28, 1964, that the FBI was opening the Ruby file for the inspection of his staff but was stopping short of actually turning the file over to him. He was also quoted as saying that he was primarily interested in the FBI's evidence on the slaying of Oswald and he has not asked for FBI information regarding the -

assassination of former President Kennedy. He reportedly added that he is not interested in evidence regarding the assassination in the absence of information connecting Jack Ruby with Lee Harvey Oswald.

This information has also been furnished to the Department of Justice.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover